

Images an Abomination to the Lord. Or;

Dr. KENET's
REASONS

For pulling Down the Altar-piece
at *White-Chapel*.

THE generality of the People have been so fully convince'd of the malicious Intent of the Designer of the Altar-piece, and are so well appriz'd of the Person who caus'd it to be done, that there is little occasion to add to the publick Resentment of it. I pray God forgive him that has rais'd this unaccountable Ferment, and that he may not meet with the just Reward of his Impiety; which as a Christian and a Clergyman he ought to have had an Abhorrence of. For my part, the Remembrance of it, as far as it relates to my self is *pass'd from me*; and since they have *down'd with that*, which excited the Publick Curiosity and Horror, *to the Ground*, I have nothing more to say about it; but to make it my endeavour to undeceive such as may think Dr. *Walton* and the Parishioners injur'd, by the Execution of the Sentence lately pass'd in the *Bishop's Court*, by such Extracts as I have made from receiv'd Authority, in Justification of the Proceedings thereupon. In order to this I shall give the Reader to understand,

First, *That the Church of England absolutely Condemns all Images of the Trinity, (See the Statute of the 3d and 4th Edw. 6, cap. 10) or any Person in it, Father, Son, or Holy Ghost; as absolutely unlawful, and expressly condemn'd in Scripture. Such Images are not to be Tolerated, neither in nor out of Churches.*

Secondly. *No Images of our Blessed Saviour, or of any Saints or Martyrs, are (in the Judgment of our Church) to be tolerated in our Temples, or any Place of God's Publick Worship. See the 3d Part of the Homily against Idolatry.*

This I conceive is the approv'd Doctrine of the Church of England; and and that it may more plainly and distinctly appear to be so, I shall again cite the Judgment of the Church, and her Reasons for it, in her own express Words. Among other Things, too long to be transcrib'd, she plainly tells, (*Homil. 2. page 7*) 1. *That it is an ungodly Thing to set up Images or Idols (which, in her Opinion signifie the same thing) in our Churches; because it may give a great occasion of Worshipping them.* 2. *That Images in Churches painted on Cloaths or Walls, are unlawful, and contrary to Christian Religion.* 3. *That setting up Images in Churches, is to the great and unavoidable Danger of Idolatry, and that the Law of God is against it.* 4. *That setting up the Image of God, of our blessed Saviour, or any of the Saints, is against God's Laws.* 5. *It is not possible, if Images be in Churches, to avoid Idolatry.* 6. *Images of God, our blessed Saviour, and the holiest Saints, are of all others the most Dangerous to be in our Churches.* 8. *That Images in Churches, in the Judgment of the Prophet and Apostle, are only Teachers of Lies.* 9. *God's horrible Wrath cannot be avoided without the utter abolishing of Images in Churches.*

This is evidently the express Doctrine of our *Homilies*, which absolutely condemns not only the *Worshipping*, but *having* Images in our Churches. And it is no less evident, That the *Homilies*, and the Doctrines contained in them, are both approved, received, and established by the Supreme Authority of our Church and State, Canons of Convocation, and Acts of Parliament, which might be here recited, were not what has been already submitted to the Reader's perusal of sufficient Authority to justify the Judge of the Bishops Court, for the Orders he gave to take down the Altar-piece in *White-Chapel*, which was there set up rather as a Dishonour and Affront to Religion in general, than any particular Person aim'd at by it.

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